

PRICE, \$2 PER MONTH

At Eudo-Puth an experiment is being made with the view of utilizing the interior heat of the earth. A very deep well was in course of being bored, the water from which was found to be at 168° Fahrenheit. It has now been determined to deepen the well until 175° Fahrenheit is reached, when it is hoped that the boiling supply of water, 170° Fahrenheit, may be made available for warming dwelling-houses and public buildings.

With all respect for the enterprise of our illustrated papers and for the general collection of their individual portraits, it cannot be concealed that the sketches of incidents in which living celebrities figure do occasionally raise perplexing questions of identity. Perhaps a little anecdote related by a contributor to the *Photographic News* may help to explain this circumstance. According to this writer, an artist friend of his procured the portrait of a gentleman who appeared prominently in his sketch of a trial scene, replied: "The reporter who was in the court described him to me, and said he wasn't unlike the Duke of Edinburgh with a dash of Lord Dufferin. I drew three or four sketches of him, and he was pleased with them, and then, according to the directions of the reporter, and that's the result." The frank and candid draughtsman, according to the story, then went on to say: "Excepting in cases of extraordinary ugliness I generally find a man has his parallel somewhere. Look at the Duke of Edinburgh, for instance, I have a hundred photos, and I would undertake to say that in nine cases out of ten I should be able to find one which would match the required face."

The *Daily News* of 19th March says: "The great football match which had attracted English players in their struggles with their Scottish neighbours at Association football was most satisfactorily broken at Glasgow on Saturday, when against five goals obtained by the English eleven, the Scottish representatives failed to reach a point. Previously to the match, which was gained by English players since 1870, and they have had to wait nine years before lowering the colours of their friends beyond the Tweed. Even now Scotland has twelve victories to set against three scored by England; but the reflection that until the most favourable circumstances the balance of defeat cannot be cleared off until the year 1897 will not, it is to be hoped, discourage the English eleven. The football Association Committee is to be heartily congratulated upon the selections made for the international cups against Scotland. Four of the players from Lancashire, four from the Midlands, and three from the South, so that each great football centre was properly represented. Preston North End, who do battle with West Bromwich Albion for possession of the national trophy at Kennington Oval next Saturday, were awarded three places in the team, and would probably have been awarded one or two more had other members of the club been eligible. Seven of the North End men, however, are Scotchmen, and the goalkeeper plays for Wales; while birth in this country is a necessary qualification to represent England in international engagements."

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE CARGO-BEAT STRIKE.

To the Editor of the "CHINA MAIL."

April 20, 1888.

SIR,—Now that the Cargo-Beat people have struck work, and withdrawn into Chinese waters, it is devoutly to be hoped that the Colonial Government will resolutely maintain a "no surrender" policy, in any arrangement hereafter to be made with them.

Whatever divergence of views may exist amongst the public, as to the policy of the Government, there can be no opinion as to the unwise and ineffectual character of the special class of people they have now to deal with.

These qualities are only too well known to that section of the Community, who employ and maintain this small Mercantile Fleet and Army, which for the time being have turned against those who give them bread.

Fortunately at no period in the history of this Colony have more facilities existed for successfully coping with a Cargo-Beat strike than at present, as instances in the splendid wharves and warehouse accommodation of the Godwin Company, and the large numbers of private lighters and launches now in existence in this Harbour, whilst there is no reason to suppose that there is no strong reason why the Lighters and Barges of the Ordnance, Commissariat, and Transport Departments might not be loaned to reputable firms or individuals requiring temporary assistance for coaling, or cargo purposes.

However respectable the present unsatisfactory state of affairs may be, it must be borne in mind, that the Government are in reality warring against Guild and Trade Society influences, which are daily gathering strength in this Colony, of which so many proofs occur from time to time in our midst, and which, if not stopped, will in a few years be a serious menace to the complete ruin of the humble classes of Chinese who flock to this Colony for a livelihood.

In resisting Guild dictations, therefore, it is only right for the authorities to receive the hearty support, sympathy, and co-operation where practicable, of all European and leading Chinese residents in this Colony. To yield to threats now would be most deplorable and could not fail to have the most disastrous influence in the future. It is therefore to be hoped that no amount of adverse criticism, public or individual, loss or suffering, will turn the Government from an iron determination to gain the day at all costs.—Yours,

ALF. WOOLLEY.

THE 'EUROPEAN' DISTRICT.

To the Editor of the "CHINA MAIL."

Hongkong, 20th Feb., 1888.

SIR,—Our sage legislators used to have lost their wit at the last meeting of Council in discussing the bill called "The European Reservation Ordinance." Mr Wong Shing raised a question with regard to a prospective building for the Chinese Chamber of Commerce and the aspect of the bill seemed entirely changed. The Governor and the Chief Justice floundered for a little time, and the whole question was left open for another week. Why the innocent question of the Chinese member should have produced such a complexity I fail to see. The principle of the bill was pretty clearly laid down by the Governor at the previous meetings. What the European community, with the exception of a few interested landlords, want is to have a clear space in the centre of the town where a little air may circulate freely and where the "horse-box" Chinese tenements would not be allowed. The question as to whether a Chinese Chamber of Commerce should be allowed within the prescribed district or not is altogether foreign to the proposed ordinance. Such a building could not by any manner of means be constructed into a tenement designed for habitation by a dense mass of people, be huddled together

in a Chinese style with less than 300 cubic feet to each individual. This question, not being touched by the Ordinance, would simply have to be decided by the Surveyor General or Government or the principle of expediency, which was addressed to have a structure in a certain part of the town of a certain style of architecture, in the same way as Municipal Councils at Home are called on every other day to decide questions of expediency as to style of architecture.

The bill, however, which gave some pretext for Mr Wong Shing's question; but surely, seeing the intention of the Governor is manifest to all, the definition might have been improved without much trouble. The definition of the forbidden class of houses suggested by the Registrar General to Mr. Lister, if not entirely correct, meets the difficulty—a building designed for occupation by a greater number of persons than one to every thousand cubic feet of space. Perhaps if the words "or of the character usually occupied by a greater number of persons than one" were added to the definition, it would meet the objection of His Excellency that the definition would only allow the authorities to come down on people after the building was inhabited by an undue number of persons. It is evident, however, that in this matter some discretion must be left to the official to whom these are submitted, as almost any style of house might be substituted by one highly objectionable. Mr Wong Shing's second difficulty may be dismissed at once. No Canton or Chinese merchant, however rich he was, could afford to pay the price he would have to pay here in the centre of the town for the large stretch of ground reserved for the large yards and courts attached to them.

The intention of the Governor is, I think, clearly understood by all, except perhaps by a writer in your morning contemporary, who willfully or ignorantly misconstrues the whole matter. He evidently is a youth who has never seen a Chinese house, and who knows that a cubic house is, or how Chinese families live in the "horse-box" rank are lodged. Cubic houses and houses subdivided into "horse-boxes" are not one and the same thing—in fact as a rule entirely different. Cubic sleep on benches arranged in layers and very often occupy a fairly large space, and the "horse-box" is a small room, which is packed together in these layers. It is essentially, what one might call the middle class Chinese house, and it is not a "horse-box" or who occupies houses at the rate of some what under 300 feet of cubic space to each man—the amount complained of by the "Chinese" writer. The bill is not a requirement in the Public Health Bill, and out of whom the best rooms are reserved by grabbing house proprietors. Now it is precisely the invasion of this class that the bill seeks to prevent. And that this class is invading what is generally supposed to be the European district may be seen by the eyes open to the fact that the Chinese are flocking to the European district, and are occupying it. Some of the houses have a semi-European aspect, but they are occupied by the Chinese, and that is the crucial point. What the European community want is to prevent this state of things from occurring within the reserved district. On the contrary, in one of the Terraces and in the Western Terrace, Chinese are flocking to the houses more or less after the European fashion, allowing their family the required quantity of space to each member, and these no one ever contemplated disturbing. The wish of the community and the intention of the Governor are clearly evident to everyone who knows of any Europeans who have been cast out of their houses to make room for Chinese of the class that occupy their house in the European fashion with upwards of 1,000 feet to every individual member, and it is certainly the first time I have seen a Chinese house, which is really sold out of houses so occupied. I really wonder the *Daily Press* would open its leading columns for the display of such stupid nonsense.

In quibbling over niceties of definition the real objections that have been urged to the bill have been lost sight of. That they have not been taken up by the non-official members is easily accounted for by the fact that these are all more or less deeply interested in house property, and if I am not mistaken have not much sympathy for the ordinance in any form, although they do not care to show their feelings, in view of the strong public opinion in favour of reservation. I was both astonished and sorry to read that the Governor considered it as an undignified tribute to the expediency of the bill that only one objection had been made to him. *Really*. Does he mean to say that he takes no account of the opinion of the Colony unless it is expressed to him officially; that ostrich-like he hides his head and fondles the belief that there is no opposition because no one has gone to call upon him to point out generally what is objected to? In the case in which the objection was pointed out officially—a very valid objection I admit—one single landlord was interested, and he easily found means of approaching His Excellency. The Governor is surrounded by landlords, and they find it more easy to approach him than the general community, who, for want of representative institutions are not an ad hoc body and cannot act so quickly and directly. In default of representatives the public press is the only means by which the vast majority of the community, and more particularly the class meant to be protected by this bill, can make their wishes known. Mr. Lister, who is not a member of the Council, and who is not a member of the public press, is the only means by which the vast majority of the community, and more particularly the class meant to be protected by this bill, can make their wishes known. Mr. Lister, who is not a member of the Council, and who is not a member of the public press, is the only means by which the vast majority of the community, and more particularly the class meant to be protected by this bill, can make their wishes known.

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ally be extinguished and a dense mass of Chinese houses, four or five storeys high with a streetful of inhabitants, would be the result. In many other parts of the line is defective. It is suggested by the Land Commission, the goal and police buildings were removed, the ground they occupy might be covered by Chinese houses and the residents in the adjoining tenements might as well remove into the Chinese quarter at once, for all the good they would derive from the alleged reservation of the land.

I trust the Governor, who really seems most desirous to comply with the wishes of the community as far as he can, will pay some attention to their desires with regard to this bill, although the so-called representatives of the people, who are in interest—are dumb, and although we cannot all put on our black coats and interfere with His Excellency at Government House.—Yours,

PETTIT BOURGEOIS.

LATE HOME NEWS.

THE UNIONISTS AND MR. PARNELL'S BILL.
London, 18th March.—A meeting of the Dissenting Liberal members of Parliament was held at Devonshire House yesterday, Lord Hartington presiding, to discuss the question of legislation respecting arrears of rent in Ireland, and the course to be taken when Mr. Parnell's Bill comes on for consideration. Mr. T. W. Russell, who, with other Dissenting Liberals has backed an Arrears Bill, gave reasons in favour of legislation. Mr. Chamberlain introduced a Bill on the lines of their offer of last year. The majority of the subsequent speakers were in favour of legislation; and at the close of the discussion Lord Hartington, while stating that he could not support Mr. Parnell's Bill, said that in view of the prevailing opinion he would not support the bill which he did not deal with the question as to what in the manner that Mr. Chamberlain had suggested, they must not count on the support of a large number of Dissenting Liberals when Mr. Parnell's Bill comes before the House.

OPPOSITION TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL.

London, March 20.—The Temperance Association of the House will strongly oppose the Licensing provisions of the Local Government Bill, on the ground that they establish vested interests which are not at present recognised by law. They are also opposed to handing over the increased fund raised by licences to the County Councils as tending to give the poor bodies an interest in the maintenance of the number of public-houses in the area over which their authority extends.

Opposition will, we believe, be offered in the interest of the publicans to the proposal to add twenty per cent. to present cost of licences. It is stated, however, that the large brewers are opposed to the bill, and the licensing provisions of the Bill as in the nature of a fair compromise, and that they will advise the acceptance of the Government proposals by the classes chiefly concerned.

The members interested in London Government reform on both sides of the House are to be happy to see the Government Bill, which is intended to create a County Council for the Metropolis. It is strongly doubted, however, whether this portion of the Government scheme can be effectively dealt with this Session.

We believe that a proposal will be made from the front opposition benches to the administration of the Poor Law from the Boards of Guardians, which are unaffected by the Government Bill—to the new County Authorities.

The Second Reading of the Local Government Bill is to be met by an Amendment from the Irish Bishops, declaring that the provisions of the Bill ought to be extended to Ireland.

THE RADICALS AND BOURGEOIS.

Paris, March 19, Midnight.—A number of Deputies of the Extreme Left have drawn up a protest against the proposed electoral manifesto in honour of General Boulanger. They say: "We are devoted to two ideas—to restore the country, and to found the Republic on democratic reforms. We are determined to continue the struggle without flinching against an opposition which enervates men's minds and irritates public opinion. Votes given to a Government which has no other aim than to restore the Republic to a few hands, would constitute a veritable betrayal, and that would signify the abdication of a free people. The intrusion of military leaders into politics is not only a menace to the institutions of a free country, but it disarms our forces, by dividing them in the presence of the enemy. It has always been the expression of our rights, and has ever been punished with defeat. Consequently we implore all good citizens to refuse to take part in a dangerous manifestation, in the name of the democratic traditions and principle, and in the interest of the Republic and the country."

ANOTHER PIANOFORTE PRODIGY.

London, 20th March.—Scarcely has the excitement concerning Little Josef Hoffmann abated, when another juvenile pianist appears on the scene, endowed—unless first appearances are more than usually deceiving—with a faculty if not an superior talent. Little Otto Hegner is a child, barely eleven, who yesterday afternoon at Prince's Hall gave a private recital before some of the leading musicians and amateurs of the metropolis. On Thursday next he will make his debut at a public concert at Prince's Hall, and we shall then be accorded a further opportunity of judging his capabilities. In appearance, Otto Hegner looks even younger than Hoffmann, and a plain knickerbocker suit of black replaces the sailor dress worn by the clever little Pole. In more mechanical precision the two are about equal, or to speak more justly, technical difficulties are to both of them little more than a mere expression of a desire of meaning. The power which Hegner displays is marvellous for a boy so young, and would fairly suffice for a mature artist three his age. How again he may be said to rank with Hoffmann, the balance of advantage being perhaps slightly in favour of the new comer, Otto Hegner, superiority, however, apparently lies in the fact that he has been trained for the future instead of for the immediate present, that he obviously possesses a brain power far beyond his years, and that most wisely those in authority over him have forbidden his father, but as a child of six and a half he was placed under Franz Ertke, and for the last four years his musical education has been directed by Hans Bübber, the distinguished composer of Biele. Bübber, one of the most conscientious musicians of the day, called to his aid Alfred Claus to instruct the boy in theory, and he also most assiduously refused to allow his little pupil to undertake any sort of foreign tour until

his education, considering his age, was practically complete. In the result Otto Hegner came before us, not as a wonder-child, in the ordinary sense of that much abused term, but as comparatively a finished pianist, not only in the way of technique, but as a composer, only developing in the way of years to enable him to rank with great pianists many of whom, from Liszt, Rubinstein, and Madame Schumann, down to Arabella Goddard and Eugène d'Albert, originally made their debut as soundly taught juvenile prodigies. The task which the boy undertook yesterday was no slight one. Each English suite in G minor was played with that unerring accuracy which such music demands. In the Chopin selection the last succeeded far better in the difficult. Study in A flat than in either the Nocturne or the Valse, which demand special gifts hardly possible in a child of such tender years. In the last movement displaying a degree of musical feeling which was truly surprising. Last of all came Weber's "Invitation to the Waltz," with Tausig's Arabesque, a work which pianists need hardly be reminded is not usually in the repertory of juvenile prodigies at all. Next Thursday Hegner will attempt such works as Mendelssohn's "Rondo Capriccioso," Rubinstein's "Toccata," Liszt's "Spinnelied," and Weber's "Moto Perpetuo"—a most imposing programme for a boy of eleven years of age. The Government will be glad to see the result he must stand or fall.

THE EDUCATIONAL REPORT FOR 1887.

(Continued.)

ACCOMMODATION AND SANITATION.

9. In one respect most of our educational agencies are labouring under a serious disadvantage. The question of accommodation seriously affects the results of school teaching in every country, and more particularly so in a tropical climate. Yet in this very matter of school accommodation the most of the Schools in the Colony are in a very backward condition. Among our 284 Schools there are hardly ten or twelve which are located in suitable premises. The vast majority of our Schools are at present accommodated in ordinary semi-Chinese or Chinese dwelling houses, ill suited for the purpose, and in many cases, and in most cases deficient as regards light and ventilation, and especially in respect of lavatories. Even the Government Schools, with the exception of four, are all more or less badly housed, being located in narrow tenements of Chinese construction, which were originally built for Chinese domestic purposes, and for which the Government pays a heavy monthly rent. The Grant-Aid Schools are, with a few exceptions, in the same plight. The Aided Schools in the Villages are mostly accommodated in windowless cottages, generally of a worse type than the dwellings of the villagers themselves, many of these Schools receiving light and ventilation exclusively from the open air.

There is therefore great need for improvement in the matter of school accommodation. But at present there is little prospect of an early change for the better. House rent has risen enormously in the main parts of the town. All new houses that have been built are of smaller dimensions than the old houses, and the Government has not been able to acquire any new houses for the purpose of a School. The Government and private Managers of Schools are thus being forced to face the problem of providing school accommodation of a suitable and healthy type upon the small sites now available. The Government Grants under certain conditions, and one very fine College (St. Joseph's) has been built with such aid, but Managers of Grant-Aid Schools appear to consider the restrictions with which Building Grants are hedged in too irksome still, although these restrictions are justified by the Government's own objections. The Government has also lately made several grants of building sites for Village Schools, but in the thickly populated parts of the town there is a lamentable dearth of available sites suitable for Schools. The sanitary supervision of Public Schools, which, under the Grant-Aid scheme, devolves upon the Inspector of Schools, has at my request been entrusted, since 1887, to the care of the Sanitary Board, a measure of some importance, in the case of an outbreak of epidemic disease, Schools serve as powerful centres for the propagation of the infection.

THE WORK DONE BY THE SCHOOLS.

10. The results of the annual examinations of the Schools under the supervision of the Government will be found detailed in Table X-V appended to this Report, and as far as the Government is concerned, the results of the examinations are in the Report of the Headmaster. A few supplementary statistical details and general observations regarding the principal classes of Schools may however be of interest.

11. In the case of the Government Central School, the result of this year's work has been tested by means of a joint examination conducted by the Headmaster and myself. The general value of the year's work, as ascertained by these examinations, will be found summarized in the Headmaster's Report, but I subjoin the usual statistical tables which indicate, in detail, the progress made in 1887 by the several divisions of the school.

The first table gives the number of boys passed in each subject in 1887 in the Government Central School. We have not space to reproduce the table. We can only indicate the total results for all the classes. Of 354 scholars examined 375 obtained a pass. The following pass numbers in each subject were:—Reading, 372; Dictation, 355; Arithmetic, 292; Chinese into English, 338; English into Chinese, 331; Grammar, 281; Geography, 233; Map-drawing, 230; Composition, 103; Euclid, 82; Algebra, 88; History, 48; Latin, 64; General intelligence, 45; Mensuration, 18.

GOVERNMENT CENTRAL SCHOOL.—CHINESE EXAMINATIONS, PERCENTAGE OF PASSES IN EACH SUBJECT, 1887.

Anglo-Chinese School.

No. of Boys Examined.	Copy Writing.	Reading.	Dictation.	Chinese.	Chinese into English.	English into Chinese.	Grammar.	Geography.	Map-drawing.	Composition.	Euclid.	Algebra.	History.	Latin.	General Intelligence.	Mensuration.
12	12	12	10	12	8	100										
12	11	9	12	13	8	100										
11	7	6	9	9	9	100										

Chinese Class.

No. of Boys Examined.	Copy Writing.	Reading.	Dictation.	Chinese.	Chinese into English.	English into Chinese.	Grammar.	Geography.	Map-drawing.	Composition.	Euclid.	Algebra.	History.	Latin.	General Intelligence.	Mensuration.
41	37	35	11	80												
67	59	54	50	87												
71	66	30	58	87												
38	34	27	24	72												
40	36	28	33	82												
19	16	16	16	70												

THE CENTRAL SCHOOL.—THE HONOUR OF

"MULIA" INSTEAD OF "MUTUUM."

12. Comparing the results of the year 1887, as tabulated above, with the results exhibited by the previous year's examinations, it is evident that the Government Central School not only maintains its high standard successfully, but continues making solid progress year by year. As to the comparative results achieved in the several sections of the School, Classes II, III, VII, X, and XI distinguished themselves particularly by a high average uniformly secured in almost every subject, excepting only Reading in Classes II and X, and Arithmetic in Classes III and VII. Compared with last year, Class I did better in every subject with the exception of Euclid, History and Map-drawing, and the progress made in Dictation was especially to be appreciated. Classes IV and V appeared to be rather weak in Dictation and Arithmetic, but exhibited in all the other subjects sensible improvement, which was especially noticeable in the case of Class VI in Composition and Euclid and in the case of Class V in Grammar. Classes VI and VII showed good progress in the subjects of Dictation and Arithmetic but slightly less in the case of Translation. Class VIII did very well in Reading, Dictation and Translation, but there was some falling off in Arithmetic and Map-drawing. Class IX did in most subjects better than in the previous year, with the exception of Dictation and Translation. The Chinese Classes did well in almost every subject, and especially in the Arithmetic division where very marked progress has been made. The addition of Latin to the list of higher subjects taught in the Government Central School is a noticeable innovation, characteristic of the year, and which has added new subjects to the program of a number of other Schools in the Colony. In the early years of the Government Central School, anything beyond a partial mastery of the English language was viewed by the Chinese boys of the School as an irksome burden and as a waste of time, but after a month or two, they began to appreciate Mathematics also and Chemistry, and at a time (1870) even the Theory of Music and Drawing were included among the subjects taught in the School. Chemistry, which for some years dropped out of the program, and Book-keeping, which has been taken up in several of the Schools, are at the present day being taught in the Chinese classes. But there is a danger of overloading youthful brains and teaching much instead of the better method. School hours have already reached the limit of what is safe to health. Home-lessons, indispensable as they are, are almost dangerously encroaching upon the time needed for exercise. The remedy appears to be to limit the number of subjects taught, and above that which now includes the first class of the Government Central School. If scholars can be induced to stay in School a year or two longer, all the higher subjects, like Chemistry, Book-keeping, Latin and Mathematics, can be introduced, and the result will be a more thorough education, which will eventually might be affiliated with some English University.

ANGLO-CHINESE SCHOOLS.

13. The Anglo-Chinese Schools of the Colony, located at Siyung-pai, Wan-tai, Wong-nai-ching, Stanley and Yum-tai, do not call for special remarks this year. The examinations of these Schools showed fair results, which is the more to be appreciated as in these Schools which are situated out of town there is, with the exception perhaps of Stanley, no Master to direct the efforts of the pupils. The teachers, who are for the most part more for good Chinese teaching than for English. The inhabitants of Shau-kiang have been petitioning during the year 1887 for the re-introduction of English teaching in their Vernacular School, but although another attempt is being made to re-introduce English teaching in the villages at the imminent risk of spoiling a good Vernacular School by changing it into a badly attended Anglo-Chinese School, especially in places like Shau-kiang where several Chinese dialects are represented among the pupils.

TEACHING ARITHMETIC IN NATIVE SCHOOLS.—THE THIN END OF THE WEDGE.

14. Those Government Schools and Aided Schools which hitherto gave a Chinese education, pure and simple, exclusively in the Chinese language and according to Chinese traditional methods, entered upon the year 1887 upon a new phase of their existence, through the introduction of Arithmetic teaching, which is not only a striking departure from the groove of Chinese tradition but will prove the thin end of the wedge for the introduction of class teaching, time tables, mental training, and in short an approach to the methods and organization of a European School. For the present, the step taken in this direction is seemingly insignificant, and with one solitary exception the teachers of all the Schools, including even the Aided Schools in the Villages, took this step cheerfully. At the beginning of the year, the syllabus of each School, with simple Addition and Multiplication Tables (in Chinese characters) and brief directions to teach all children under 10 years simple Addition, while the rest were to be taught both Addition and Multiplication. But I left it free to each Master to choose whatever method he might prefer, to use the Chinese abacus, to have sums done in writing, or to teach simply mentally. Arithmetic, in any way he pleased. The results obtained at the end of the year might be called satisfactory, had they not been gained, in almost all cases, at the expense of Geography teaching, which was generally neglected in favour of Arithmetic teaching.

Not one Master taught the use of the Chinese abacus. This is very significant and points in the direction of introducing the European method of Arithmetic, if the Masters can be led into it without driving. One Master boldly took up the European system of notation and taught, besides Mental Arithmetic, also Addition, Subtraction and Multiplication with the use of the abacus, and with the use of tablets (in the place of slates), making his children work out every sum in writing according to the European method. Another Master, resolved to use no foreign method whatever, but determined to teach Arithmetic strictly according to ancient Chinese methods, so he took an old Chinese book, published in the early part of the century under the Ming dynasty, and actually taught his boys the four rules, and, in the case of the eldest class, he taught even the extraction of square root and cube root, with Chinese figures indeed but with the minutest adherence to the European method. In doing so, the Master gloried in the fact that the method he was following was exclusively Chinese principles, for he was blissfully unaware that his old Chinese book was the work of a Chinese pupil of Matthew Ricci. The next step that may be taken will be to supply each teacher with a simple manual for his guidance in teaching the four rules according to the European system of Arithmetic, and to do the same for the teaching of Chinese Geography.

As regards the Grant-Aid Schools in Class I, that is, Schools which give a Chinese education exclusively in the Chinese language, I subjoin a comparative Table exhibiting the results of the working of the Revised Scheme (of 1883) which

came into operation in 1884.—The aim of that revision was to increase the amount of work to be done under the several Standards, to reduce the earning power of the comparatively inexpensive Schools, and, finally, to encourage the teachers to bring more children under instruction in the higher Standards without skipping the lower ones. [Here follows a table showing that the number of scholars examined in schools in Class I was: in 1884, 1,251; in 1885, 1,473; in 1886, 1,500; in 1887, 1,636. The amount earned by passes (from the proportion grant and needle work) was: 1884, \$7,572; 1885, \$8,350; 1886, \$6,222; 1887, \$6,432.]

RETENTION OF THE VERACULAR.

15. It will be seen from the Tables that the amount earned by these Grant-Aid Schools in Class I has increased from year to year, but the rate of increase has been far below the natural increase of the number of children in attendance. It will further be observed that the loss has been from year to year an increase in the number of children annually brought forward into the higher Standards. The increase has indeed been rather small. Yet it is evident that the aim which was kept in view in revising the Scheme in 1883 has been fairly attained. There is, however, another portion of the revision with the Table that requires comment. The figures, which indicate a defect in the education of Chinese girls, also, in the case of boys, that those Primary Chinese Schools in Class I act as the natural feeders of our Middle Class Schools, so far as the Chinese population is concerned, and that in their case a sound knowledge of the vernacular is now generally made the preliminary stepping stone for reaching a sound English education. The same important principle has been recognized also, as has been shown in the Report, by the Portuguese community in this Colony. It is a principle which is now in India persistently urged upon educationists, since it has been generally recognized that the preservation of the vernacular in all Classes of Schools is required in order that the mental progress of the scholar may be reflected in his instruction, and to make use of his own language.

THE BASEL AND BERLIN MISSIONS' SCHOOLS.

17. The Grant-Aid Schools in Class III (Basel and Berlin Missions) continue to show good results. In these Schools, which give a European education (to Chinese Girls) in the Chinese language, a laudable tendency has of late set in, to confine the use of the Romanized system of writing Chinese within reasonable limits and to teach in the higher Standards as much as possible of the written Chinese character. Evidence of the beneficial effect of this movement presented itself in a marked manner at the examinations held at the end of the year 1887. Formerly shows results in Chinese composition and letter-writing were obtained in the Romanized system, in these Schools, but, through comparative neglect of the use of the written Chinese character, children who passed successfully Standard VI were generally left unable to read or write an ordinary Chinese letter or simple bill for goods bought or sold. At the last examinations I noticed in this respect a great change for the better. The Chinese girls in these Schools are, for instance, still taught to write in good colloquial prose (Romanized) answers to searching questions in the history of Babylonia, Egypt, Greece and Rome, and they are now also gaining proficiency in writing simple prose in Chinese characters. In the common Chinese character, it is to be regretted that the history teaching of these schools excludes at present, for want of a suitable manual, the history of China. But as besides history, also Arithmetic (as far as decimal fractions) and Geography (as far as the history of the world) are subjects of an elementary Chinese education, it must be admitted that the wide range of education given in these Schools is eminently satisfactory, and does credit to the Basel and Berlin Missions.

CAMBRIDGE LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.

18. The Grant-Aid Schools in Class IV have made extraordinary progress in the year 1887. I referred in the previous year's Report to the stimulus which has been given to the educational movement in this Colony by the introduction (at the instance of Mr C. J. Bateman, Headmaster of the Hongkong Public School) of the system of non-grant examinations conducted by the Syndicate of the University of Cambridge. I expected this measure to exercise, in the common Chinese character, a powerful influence towards raising the standard of English education in the Colony. I apprehended also certain drawbacks, temptations and dangers to attach themselves to this as to every other strong stimulative measure. Surveying now the educational work of the year 1887, certainly so, even at present, none of the drawbacks I referred to, but the suddenness and the extent of the healthful impulse, which the introduction of the Cambridge Local Examinations gave, in the year 1887, to the study of the higher branches of an English education, has surpassed all my expectations. There was hitherto only one School, the Victoria English School, which, during the last year, annually took up three of the special subjects of the Grant-Aid Scheme, viz., Algebra, Euclid, and Physical Geography. But in 1887, suddenly five other Schools, St. Joseph's College, the two Victoria English Schools (including even a Girl's School), St. Paul's College (Anglo-Chinese School) and the Hongkong Public School, (recently placed under the Grant-Aid Scheme) took up three of the special subjects of the Grant-Aid Scheme, viz., Algebra, Euclid, and Physical Geography. The Victoria English Schools came out strongest in this respect, gaining the proportionately largest number of passes, in Book-keeping (Turner's Commercial Guide and Hunter's Civil Service Examination Questions), Algebra, Euclid and Physical Geography. St. Joseph's College distinguished itself least by the number of higher subjects taken up (adding Euclid's Astronomy to the other subjects), and by the thoroughness in which these subjects were taught. The increase in the expenditure, thus caused, made it necessary to subject all the various Classes of Schools to a uniform reduction of the grants nominally awarded. There was no injustice in including under this reduction also the Schools in Class I and II, because both these Classes of Schools, but especially the Chinese School in Class I, being comparatively inexpensive Schools, had all along an undue advantage annually earning from three-fourths to nine-tenths of their actual expenditure, whilst Schools in Class IV generally earn a grant covering, at the best, one-fourth or one-third of their expenses.

NEEDLEWORK.

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Mails.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.
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Hongkong, April 14, 1888. 612

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WOO LIN YUEN,
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Hongkong, December 2, 1887. 2349

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cation, and altogether forms a very
interesting and readable number. Me-
tropolitans will find an interesting and
valuable contribution by Dr. Fritzsche,
on "The Amount of Precipitation (Rain
and Snow)" at Peking, showing the results
of observations made at the Imperial Rus-
sian Observatory at Peking, from 1841 to
1880. "Notes on the Dutch Occupation
of Formosa," by Mr. Geo. Phillips, contains
some interesting information, although
much of it is second-hand. The Notices of
New Books include a most generous and
appreciative review of "The Divine Classic
of Nan-Hua," and the Notes and Queries
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'The November-December number of
the *China Review* contains less variety than
usual, but the few articles are very interest-
ing. The opening paper by Mr. Herbert
A. Giles on "The New Testament in Chi-
nese" treats of a question that must neces-
sarily be of great importance in the eyes
of all missionaries. Mr. E. H. Parker's
"Short Journeys in Szechuan" are
continued, and a goodly instalment of
these travels in the interior of China is
given. Mr. F. H. Balfour contributes a
paper of some length entitled "The Empe-
ror Cheng, founder of the Chinese Em-
pire," which will be read with genuine
interest by students of Chinese history.
A few short notices of New Books and a
number of Notes and Queries, one of which
"On Chinese Oaths in Western Borneo
and Java" might appropriately have been
placed under a separate heading, complete
the number.'—*H.K. Daily Press*.

Frederick's Oriental Record contains the
following notice of the *China Review*:—
'The present publication, judging by the
number now before us, is intended to
occupy a position, as regards China and the
neighbouring countries, some what similar
to that which has been filled in India by the
Calcutta Review. The great degree of at-
tention that has been bestowed of late years
upon the investigation of Chinese literature,
antiquities, and social developments, has led to
the accumulation of important stores of infor-
mation, rendering some such channel of pub-
licity as is now provided extremely desir-
able; and the contents of the number in-
deed fairly be looked on as of much interest
to the foreign consular services, the Chinese
Customs corps, and the missionary body,
among whom a high degree of Chinese
scholarship is now assiduously cultivated,
and who are severally represented in the first
number of the Review by papers highly
creditable to their respective authors. . . .
Some translations from Chinese novels and
plays are marked by both accuracy and fre-
quency of style; and an account of the career
of the Chinese poet-statesman of the eleventh
century, Su Tung-p'o, by Mr. E. O. Bowra,
is not only historically valuable, but is also
distinguished by the literary grace. Beside
articles of new books relating to China and
the East, which will be a useful feature of
the Review, if carried out with punctuality
and detail, we are glad to notice that
'Notes' and 'Queries' are destined to
find a place in its pages also. It is to be
hoped that this opening for contributions on
Chinese subjects may evoke a similar
degree of literary skill and that which was
displayed during the lifetime of its prede-
cessor in the field, and that the *China Review*
may receive the support necessary to insure
its continuance.'

Mr. Andrew Wind,
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Merchant Vessels in Hongkong Harbour.

Exclusive of late Arrivals and Departures reported to-day.

To facilitate finding the position of any vessel in the Harbour, the Anchorage is divided into eleven Sections, commencing at
Green Island. Vessels near the Hongkong shore are marked h., near the Kowloon shore k., and those in the body of the
Shipping or midway between each shore are marked c., in conjunction with the figures denoting the sections.

Section.
1. From Green Island to the Gas Works.
2. From Gas Works to Jardine's Wharf.
3. From Jardine's Wharf to the Harbour Master's Office.
4. From Harbour Master's Office to the P. and O. Co.'s Office.
5. From P. and O. Co.'s Office to Peddar's Wharf.
6. From Peddar's Wharf to the Naval Yard.

Section.
7. From Naval Yard to Blue Buildings.
8. From Blue Buildings to East Point.
9. From East Point to Kowloon Island to North Point.
10. Kowloon Wharves.
11. Jardine's Wharf.

Vessel's Name.	Flag and Rig.	Tons.	Date of Arrival.	Consignee or Agents.	Destination.	Remarks.
Steamers						
Alvina	Samuelson	Ger. str.	400	April 17	Wilder & Co.	K'loon Dock
Bantam	Schutte	Dutch str.	1434	April 16	Jardine, Matheson & Co.	
Bormida	Dagnino	Ital. str.	1499	April 18	Carlowitz & Co.	Bombay, &c.
Carlsbrooke	Cass	Brit. str.	973	April 16	Morris & Ray	To-morrow
China	Ulderup	Ger. str.	408	April 18	Melchers & Co.	K'loon Dock
Chi Yuen	Lunt	Chi. str.	1121	April 14	C. M. S. N. Co.	Swatow & Shanghai
City of Peking	Deaborn	Amer. str.	1079	April 15	P. M. S. S. Co.	Yokohama & San Francisco
Deucalion	Arquith	Brit. str.	1374	April 20	Butterfield & Swire	To-morrow
Deuchaneels	Torse	Ger. str.	1552	April 15	Adamson, Bell & Co.	To-morrow
Palkenberg	Dreyer	Ger. str.	938	April 18	Melchers & Co.	Saigon
Pinken	Roach	Brit. str.	509	April 19	Douglas Steamship Co.	Amoy and Tamsui
General Worden	Schuckmann	Ger. str.	1200	April 14	Melchers & Co.	Yokohama & Kobe
Glenfinlas	Ferguson	Brit. str.	1408	April 19	Jardine, Matheson & Co.	To-morrow
Guthrie	Shannon	Brit. str.	2500	April 11	Russell & Co.	Sydney, &c.
Kildare	Johnson	Brit. str.	2277	April 18	Butterfield & Swire	To-morrow
Kwang Lee	Andrew	Chi. str.	1508	April 19	C. M. S. N. Co.	To-morrow
Ningpo	Schultz	Brit. str.	732	April 19	Siemens & Co.	To-morrow
Palkana	Young	Brit. str.	517	April 17	Order	Shanghai
Pilot Fish	Stopani	Brit. tug.	161	Sept. 27	H. K. & W. Dock Co.	To-day
Soochow	Rowin	Brit. str.	313	April 20	Chinese	Hoihow, &c.
Tetartos	Peterson	Ger. str.	1587	April 18	Takasima Colliery	Kobe & Yokohama
Velox	Kallson	Ger. str.	630	April 19	Eduard Schellhaas & Co.	To-morrow
Waiting	Chang Shing	Chi. str.	393	April 17	Master	Choofo & N'chwang
Sailing Vessels						
Allie Rowe	Phillips	Haw. bg.	1396	June 9	Wilder & Co.	Laid up
Angulo	Schumacher	Ger. bg.	1396	Mar. 31	Borneo Co., Limited	
Augusta	Jesson	Ger. bg.	473	Mar. 27	Eduard Schellhaas & Co.	
B. P. Cheney	Hughes	Amer. str.	1239	Jan. 26	Douglas, LaPraik & Co.	New York
Centennial	Beane	Amer. str.	1222	Jan. 27	Carlowitz & Co.	
Columbus	Heeloop	Ger. str.	1429	April 11	Order	
Eidsvold	Pannos	Norw. bg.	272	April 10	Order	
K. H. Drews	Rothbart	Ger. bg.	624	April 15	Melchers & Co.	
K. H. Drews	Prattberg	Ger. bg.	550	April 17	Melchers & Co.	
Kitty	Leard	Brit. bg.	893	Aug. 30	Order	
Lady Harwood	Williams	Brit. bg.	382	April 19	Captain	
Loong Wah	Lord	Brit. bg.	373	April 18	Eduard Schellhaas & Co.	
Mount Lebanon	Nelson	Amer. bg.	520	April 16	Arnhold, Karberg & Co.	
Penshaw	Parker	Brit. bg.	729	Mar. 12	Laue, Crawford & Co.	
Santa Filomena	Mendiguren	Span. sch.	448	Jan. 26	Chinese	
Santa Filomena	Tiemann	Ger. bg.	1037	Jan. 26	Melchers & Co.	
Tetart	Roper	Ger. bg.	438	April 1	Chinese	
Titan	Ally	Amer. str.	1270	Jan. 28	Pustan & Co.	New York

Her Britannic Majesty's Ships on the China Station.

Name.	Rig.	Tons.	Guns.	I.H.P.	Captain.	Where at.
nerity	despatch-vessel	1700	4	3180	Com. R. Blair Macdonochie	Hongkong
adacious*	twin-screw battle-ship	6010	10	4830	Capt. John B. Warren	Hongkong
ockfish	gunboat 2nd class	465	4	470	Lieut. Com. Ed. E. Maxwell	Poochow
nstance	cruiser 3rd class	2380	14	2590	Capt. L. C. Keppel	Hongkong
rdelia	cruiser 3rd class	2380	10	2420	Captain Henry H. Boys	Shanghai
ik.	g.-b., 3rd class coast defence	363	3	340		In reserve
ipour	gunboat 2nd class	465	4	470	Lieut. Com. Reginald Y. Smith	Canton
rebrand	gunboat 2nd class	465	4	480	Lieut. Com. Denison	Manila
nd	cruiser 3rd class	1420	8	1130	Captain Ohsa. J. Balfour	Hongkong
ander	cruiser 2nd class	4300	10	5600	Captain M. J. Dunlop	Kobe
met	gun-vessel 2nd class	765	5	1050	Commander W. Mearck	Hongkong
urine	gunboat 2nd class	430	4	430	Lieut. Com. W. M. Maturin	Hongkong
otling	sloop	1130	10	1120	Commander J. H. Martin	Hongkong
atler	battle-ship 1st class armoured	4870	16	4040	Captain T. H. Roys	Singapore
atler	surveying vessel	830	3	680	Commander W. H. Moore	On a cruise
pphire	gunboat 1st class	715	6	1200	Lieut. Com. W. Macl. Douglal	Yokohama
stellite	cruiser 3rd class	1970	12	2360	Captain W. O. Karelake	Hongkong
olent	cruiser 3rd class.	1420	8	1400	Captain T. P. W. Nesham	Hongkong
rift	torpedo mining launch	150	—	—		Hongkong
ctor Enamel.	gun-vessel 2nd class	765	5	1010	Com. Hon. Richard Bingham	Hongkong
ander	roving ship	144	5	—	Commanders Maxwell, A. D.C.	Hongkong
vern	sloop	925	4	760	Commander Geo. Giffard	Hongkong
	coast defence ship, armoured	2750	4	1450		Hongkong